

new unit, is not considered to constitute a duplicative housing subsidy.

**§ 982.312 Absence from unit.**

(a) The family may be absent from the unit for brief periods. For longer absences, the HA administrative plan establishes the HA policy on how long the family may be absent from the assisted unit. However, the family may not be absent from the unit for a period of more than 180 consecutive calendar days in any circumstance, or for any reason. At its discretion, the HA may allow absence for a lesser period in accordance with HA policy.

(b) Housing assistance payments terminate if the family is absent for longer than the maximum period permitted. The term of the HAP contract and assisted lease also terminate.

(The owner must reimburse the HA for any housing assistance payment for the period after the termination.)

(c) Absence means that no member of the family is residing in the unit.

(d)(1) The family must supply any information or certification requested by the HA to verify that the family is residing in the unit, or relating to family absence from the unit. The family must cooperate with the HA for this purpose. The family must promptly notify the HA of absence from the unit, including any information requested on the purposes of family absences.

(2) The HA may adopt appropriate techniques to verify family occupancy or absence, including letters to the family at the unit, phone calls, visits or questions to the landlord or neighbors.

(e) The HA administrative plan must state the HA policies on family absence from the dwelling unit. The HA absence policy includes:

(1) How the HA determines whether or when the family may be absent, and for how long. For example, the HA may establish policies on absences because of vacation, hospitalization or imprisonment; and

(2) Any provision for resumption of assistance after an absence, including readmission or resumption of assistance to the family.

**§ 982.313 Security deposit: Amounts owed by tenant.**

(a) The owner may collect a security deposit from the tenant.

(b) The HA may prohibit security deposits in excess of private market practice, or in excess of amounts charged by the owner to unassisted tenants.

(c) When the tenant moves out of the dwelling unit, the owner, subject to State or local law, may use the security deposit, including any interest on the deposit, in accordance with the lease, as reimbursement for any unpaid rent payable by the tenant, damages to the unit or for other amounts the tenant owes under the lease.

(d) The owner must give the tenant a written list of all items charged against the security deposit, and the amount of each item. After deducting the amount, if any, used to reimburse the owner, the owner must refund promptly the full amount of the unused balance to the tenant.

(e) If the security deposit is not sufficient to cover amounts the tenant owes under the lease, the owner may seek to collect the balance from the tenant.

**§ 982.314 Move with continued tenant-based assistance.**

(a) *Applicability.* This section states when a participant family may move to a new unit with continued tenant-based assistance:

(b) *When family may move.* A family may move to a new unit if:

(1) The assisted lease for the old unit has terminated. This includes a termination because:

(i) The HA has terminated the HAP contract for the owner's breach; or

(ii) The lease has terminated by mutual agreement of the owner and the tenant.

(2) The owner has given the tenant a notice to vacate, or has commenced an action to evict the tenant, or has obtained a court judgment or other process allowing the owner to evict the tenant.

(3) The tenant has given notice of lease termination (if the tenant has a right to terminate the lease on notice to the owner, for owner breach or otherwise).

(c) *How many moves.* (1) A participant family may move one or more times

with continued assistance under the program, either inside the HA jurisdiction, or under the portability procedures. (See § 982.353)

(2) The HA may establish:

(i) Policies that prohibit any move by the family during the initial year of assisted occupancy; and

(ii) Policies that prohibit more than one move by the family during any one year period.

(3) The HA policies may apply to moves within the HA jurisdiction by a participant family, and to moves by a participant family outside the HA jurisdiction under portability procedures.

(d) *Notice that family wants to move.* (1) If the family terminates the lease on notice to the owner, the family must give the HA a copy of the notice at the same time.

(2) If the family wants to move to a new unit, the family must notify the HA and the owner before moving from the old unit. If the family wants to move to a new unit that is located outside the initial HA jurisdiction, the notice to the initial HA must specify the area where the family wants to move. See portability procedures in subpart H of this part.

(e) *When HA may deny permission to move.* (1) The HA may deny permission to move if the HA does not have sufficient funding for continued assistance.

(2) At any time, the HA may deny permission to move in accordance with § 982.552 (grounds for denial or termination of assistance).

#### **§ 982.315 Family break-up.**

(a) The HA has discretion to determine which members of an assisted family continue to receive assistance in the program if the family breaks up. The HA administrative plan must state HA policies on how to decide who remains in the program if the family breaks up.

(b) The factors to be considered in making this decision under the HA policy may include:

(1) Whether the assistance should remain with family members remaining in the original assisted unit.

(2) The interest of minor children or of ill, elderly or disabled family members.

(3) Whether family members are forced to leave the unit as a result of actual or threatened physical violence against family members by a spouse or other member of the household.

(4) Other factors specified by the HA.

(c) If a court determines the disposition of property between members of the assisted family in a divorce or separation under a settlement or judicial decree, the HA is bound by the court's determination of which family members continue to receive assistance in the program.

#### **§ 982.316 Live-in aide.**

(a) A family that consists of one or more elderly, near-elderly or disabled persons may request that the HA approve a live-in aide to reside in the unit and provide necessary supportive services for a family member who is a person with disabilities. The HA must approve a live-in aide if needed as a reasonable accommodation in accordance with 24 CFR part 8 to make the program accessible to and usable by the family member with a disability. (See § 982.402(b)(6) concerning effect of live-in aide on family unit size.)

(b) At any time, the HA may refuse to approve a particular person as a live-in aide, or may withdraw such approval, if:

(1) The person commits fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program;

(2) The person commits drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity; or

(3) The person currently owes rent or other amounts to the HA or to another HA in connection with Section 8 or public housing assistance under the 1937 Act.

[63 FR 23860, Apr. 30, 1998; 63 FR 31625, June 10, 1998]

### **Subpart H—Where Family Can Live and Move**

SOURCE: 60 FR 34695, July 3, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

#### **§ 982.351 Overview.**

This subpart describes what kind of housing is eligible for leasing, and the